



**Division of Fire Safety
Rutland Regional Office**

56 Howe Street, Building A- Suite 200
Rutland, VT 05701
www.vtfiresafety.org

[phone] 802-786-5867
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Department of Public Safety

September 17, 2014

Mark D. Lourie
Slecteboard, Chair
Town of Rupert
P.O. Box 140 West Rupert, VT 05776

Variance Request

Location: 2673 State Road Rte. 153

Site # 93250

Dear Mr. Lourie,

I am in receipt of your variance request for the requirement to install a sprinkler system in the proposed highway garage for the town of Rupert.

Under the provisions of the amended 2012 Vermont Fire & Safety Code, Section 8, a variance may be granted when the applicant can demonstrate that strict compliance with the Code would entail practical difficulty, unnecessary hardship, or is otherwise unwarranted. Evidence must also be submitted that any such variance or exemption secures the public health and safety, and that alternate means providing an equivalent measure of safety is afforded.

The new building proposed will be 5-B construction truss roof with a total area of 7200 square feet, including 960 square feet of business occupancy and mechanical area.

Code Requirement: An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout all buildings containing a Group S-1 occupancy where the fire area used for storage of commercial trucks or buses exceeds 5,000 square feet.

You indicate that the requirement to install a sprinkler system would prove to be a hardship to the town. The water supply to operate a sprinkler system would be inadequate, as there is no municipal water. The fire department is 300 feet away and has easy access to the garage building.



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You have offered to install a fire alarm system with emergency force notification to the fire department.

The variance request is hereby **granted**, with the provisions that a two hour fire rated assembly is provided that separates the 960 square feet of business, electrical, mechanical and storage area from the remainder of the building.

Plans for the fire alarm system must be submitted, along with a fire alarm permit application prior to any installation.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

L. D. Sutherland Jr.
Regional Manager, Rutland

Cc: Regional Managers
Matt Jakubowski, Assistant State Fire Marshal